

IRELAND

a. SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
I. TERRITORIAL SEA	Oct 59	Maritime Jurisdiction Act, Act No. 22	3nm	
	Sep 88	Maritime Jurisdiction (Amendment) Act, 1988	12nm	
II. ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Oct 59	Maritime Jurisdiction Act No. 2		Enabling legislation for straight baselines; recognized right of innocent passage in all sea areas enclosed by straight baselines that previously were high seas.
	Jan 69	Statutory Instrument Act, No. 173		Established straight baseline system; see LIS No. 3.
IV. CONTINENTAL SHELF	Jun 68	Continental Shelf Act, No. 14		
	1970	Continental Shelf (Designated Areas) Order No. 96.		Certain areas designated as continental shelf.
	Feb 74	Continental Shelf (Designated Areas) Order No. 36		Additional areas so designated.
	1977	Continental Shelf (Designated Areas) Order No. 22, 1977		Additional areas so designated.
V. FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Oct 59	Maritime Jurisdiction Act	3nm	Exclusive fishing zone; authorized promulgation of wider limits.
	1964	Maritime Jurisdiction Act, Act No. 32	12nm	Fishing zone.
	Jan 77	Order No. 320	200nm	Exclusive fishing zone.
VI. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	Nov 57	Act, No. 25	100nm	Pollution zone.
VII. MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jan 90	Agreement		Continental shelf boundary agreement with United Kingdom EIF.
VIII. LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed.
	Jul 94			Acceded to Convention, ratified Part XI Agreement.

b. DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

1. STRAIGHT BASELINES

A. LEGISLATION. Following are extracts from the Irish Maritime Jurisdiction Act, effective 1 October 1959, enabling a straight baseline system:

4. (1) Save as otherwise provided, the baseline is the low-water mark--

- (a) on the coast of the mainland or of any island, or
 - (b) on any low-tide elevation situated wholly or partly at a distance not exceeding three nautical miles from the mainland or an island.
- (2) The Government may by order prescribe straight baselines in relation to any part of the national territory and the closing lines of any bay or mouth of a river, and any line so prescribed shall be taken as the baseline.
- (3) The Government may by order revoke or amend an order under subsection (2).

5. The internal or inland waters of the State shall extend to all sea areas which lie on the landward side of the baseline of the territorial seas and all such areas shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the State to the same extent in all respects as its ports and harbours, bays, lakes and rivers, subject to any rights of innocent passage for foreign ships in those sea areas which previously had been considered as part of the territorial seas or the high seas.

The coordinates below are extracted from Statutory Instrument No. 173, effective 1 January 1960, establishing the Irish straight baselines.

SCHEDULE TERMINAL POINTS OF STRAIGHT BASELINES

Reference Number	Co-ordinates of Points North Latitude	West Longitude	Location
Part A			
1.	55° 22.6'	7° 24.2'	Scart Rocks, Malin Head
2.	55° 15.4'	7° 47.1'	Melmore Head
3.	55° 13.7'	7° 58.9'	Horn Head
4.	55° 12.4'	8° 09.5'	Inishbeg
5.	55° 09.6'	8° 17.0'	Bloody Foreland
6.	55° 04.5'	8° 28.9'	Stag Rocks
7.	55° 00.8'	8° 33.8'	Rinrawros Point, Aran Island
8.	54° 42.0'	8° 48.2'	Malinmore Head
Part B			
9.	54° 39.6' Malinbeg Bay	8° 47.3'	West entrance to
10.	54° 17.8'	9° 03.3'	Lenadoon Point
11.	54° 19.7'	9° 20.5'	Downpatrick Head
Part C			
12.	54° 19.8'	9° 51.9'	Kid Island, Broadhaven
13.	54° 18.6'	9° 59.9'	Rocky Island, Erris Head
14.	54° 16.9'	10° 05.6'	Eagle Island

Reference Number	Co-ordinates of Points North Latitude	West Longitude	Location
15.	54° 03.7'	10° 21.0'	Blacksod Bay (Rocks to S.W. of Black Rock)
16.	53° 58.3'	10° 16.5'	Carrickakin, Achill Island
17.	53° 36.3'	10° 19.2'	Kimmeen Rocks, Inishark
18.	53° 24.0'	10° 14.5'	Slyne Head
19.	53° 08.8' Islands	9° 51.6'	Eoragh Island, Aran
20.	53° 08.4' Islands	9° 50.9'	South Island, Aran
Part D			
21.	53° 05.2'	9° 38.5'	S.E. corner Inishmore, Aran Islands
22.	53° 03.9'	9° 37.0'	Inishmaan, Aran Islands
23.	53° 02.8'	9° 33.3'	Inisheer, Aran Islands
24.	52° 56.4'	9° 28.5'	Cregga More
25.	52° 43.8'	9° 38.2'	Donegal Point
Part E			
26.	52° 33.6'	9° 56.3'	Loop Head
27.	52° 25.2'	9° 56.8'	Kerry Head
28.	52° 17.6'	10° 10.4'	Deelick Point
Part F			
29.	52° 10.9'	10° 28.4'	Sybil Point
30.	52° 08.3'	10° 34.5'	Inishtooskert, Blasket Islands
31.	52° 07.7'	10° 35.7'	Carrigduff, Blasket Islands
32.	52° 04.6'	10° 41.0'	Tearaght Rocks West, Inistearaght
33.	52° 01.3'	10° 41.3'	Great Foze Rock
34.	51° 45.8'	10° 32.7'	Washerwoman Rock, Great Skellig

Reference Number	Co-ordinates of Points North Latitude	West Longitude	Location
35.	51° 35.5'	10° 18.5'	Gull Rock, Dursey Island
36.	51° 34.2'	10° 14.8'	Calf Rock, Dursey Island
37.	51° 26.9'	9° 49.2'	Mizen Head
38.	51° 25.2'	9° 30.8'	Bream Point, Cape Clear
39.	51° 28.0'	9° 13.4'	The Stags, Toe Head
40.	51° 31.8'	8° 57.2'	Galley Head
41.	51° 34.2'	8° 42.7'	Seven Heads
42.	51° 36.3'	8° 32.0'	Old Head of Kinsale
43.	51° 49.5'	7° 59.0'	Ballycotton Island
44.	51° 52.9'	7° 51.2'	Capel Island, Knockadoon Head
45.	51° 56.5'	7° 42.4'	Ram Head
46.	51° 59.6'	7° 34.6'	The Rogue, Mine Head
47.	52° 07.4'	6° 55.7'	Hook Head
48.	52° 06.5'	6° 37.4'	Great Saltee Island (Southernmost Point)
49.	52° 09.2'	6° 24.6'	Black Rock, Carnsore
50.	52° 10.3'	6° 21.8'	Carnsore Point

B. ANALYSIS The following comments regarding Ireland's straight baseline system are extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 3, "Straight Baselines: Ireland," 23 January 1970:

The fifty points specified in the Order are situated: a) twenty-one on capes of the mainland, b) an equal number on islands or islets and c) the remaining eight points on rocks. No low-tide elevations or drying rocks have been utilized. All straight baselines begin and terminate on the mainland of Ireland with a single exception. Point No. 20 is on South Island of the Aran Islands. The next point, No. 21, comprises the southeast corner of adjacent Inishmore island in the same group. Because of geographic configuration and the lack of gain in the sea, a line has not been drawn to connect these two points. In effect, however, this means that the continuous baseline is drawn so as to enclose Galway Bay within the Irish internal waters. The low water line of Inishmore effectively joins the points.

The Irish Government has applied the straight baseline principle in a unique manner. Six straight baselines alternate with seven normal baselines utilizing the low water line of the mainland or of adjacent islands. The eastern coast, on the Irish Sea, which is generally only locally indented and which lacks offshore islands, has not been supplemented by straight baselines. In the north, the coast between the boundary fjord (Lough Foyle) and Malin Head, a point on Ireland's North Point, forms the baseline. To the west and south, however, a series of baselines stretch to the southeast cape of Ireland. The straight baselines have replaced the low water line for more than 90% of this part of the coast. The individual segments of the Irish straight baselines measure approximately as follows:

Line	Length (nm)	Remarks
1-2	15.00	Enclose Lough Swilly
2-3	7.00	Enclose Sheep Haven (bay)
3-4	6.25	

Line	Length (nm)	Remarks
4-5	5.00	Island studded coast
5-6	8.50	same
6-7	4.60	same
7-8	20.60	Enclose Baylagh Bay
Total	66.96*	
9-10	23.8	Enclose Donegal Bay
10-11	10.3	Enclose Killala Bay
Total	44.1*	
12-13	4.8	Island studded coast
13-14	3.6	same
14-15	16.2	same
15-16	6.1	same
16-17	22.2	Enclose Clew Bay
17-18	12.6	Island studded coast
18-19	20.9	Same; serves to close Galway Bay on north
19-20	.5	
Sub-total	76.9*	
21-22	1.5	
22-23	2.4	
23-24	7.6	Closes Galway Bay on the south
24-25	13.3	
Sub-total	24.8*	
Total	101.7*	
26-27	8.25	Closes Shannon River estuary
27-28	11.40	Enclose Tralee Bay and two others
Total	19.65*	
29-30	4.50	Island studded coast
30-31	1.00	
31-32	4.50	
32-33	3.30	
33-34	16.30	Enclose Dingle Bay
34-35	13.60	Fjorred coast
35-36	2.70	
36-37	17.60	same
37-38	11.75	Southwest corner of Ireland
38-39	11.20	
39-40	11.00	
40-41	9.40	
41-42	7.10	Enclose Countermacsherry Bay
42-43	24.25	Closes Cork embayment
43-44	6.10	
44-45	6.50	Enclose Youghal Bay
45-46	5.90	
46-47	25.20	Longest straight baseline; enclose Dungarvan Bay and Waterford harbor
47-48	11.30	
48-49	8.25	
49-50	2.10	
Total	240.90	
Grand Total	474.20	